

South Dakota National Guard

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Deployment ceremony to be held for National Guard team

PIERRE, S.D. – A deployment ceremony will be held for 15 Soldiers of the South Dakota Army National Guard's 200th Engineer Company at Riggs High School in Pierre, July 22, at 1 p.m. (CDT).

The public is encouraged to attend the event as the bridge training team members depart for a nine month deployment to the Middle East.

The Soldiers from the Pierre, Chamberlain and Mobridge-based unit will serve as a training assistance team and provide expertise to coalition forces on military bridging systems. As a multi-role bridge unit, the 200th's mission is to assemble, maintain, repair and replace all standard U.S. Army bridging systems.

Planned speakers for the ceremony include Gov. Dennis Daugaard, U.S. Senators John Thune and Mike Rounds, U.S. Congresswoman Kristi Noem, Pierre Mayor Steve Harding, and Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, SDNG adjutant general.

The unit will report to Fort Bliss, Texas, to complete several weeks of theater-specific training prior to deployment overseas.

Since the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the United States, this will be the third mobilization for the 200th, which deployed forces to Iraq in 2003-2004 and Afghanistan in 2011-2012.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION: Contact the SDNG Public Affairs Office at 737-6721 or e-mail ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil